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## Colby to extend stay at CIA

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Washington—President Ford yesterday asked William E. Colby, whom he fired earlier this week as director of the Central Intelligence Agency, to stay on the job until his designated successor, George Bush, can take over.

Ronald H. Nessen, the President's press secretary, said Mr. Colby agreed to the request after meeting with Mr. Ford.

No date was set for the changeover, although expectations centered on a time around the end of the year.

Mr. Bush, chief of the United States liaison office in China, may have to remain in Peking to help with arrangements concerning Mr. Ford's planned trip to China, originally set for late this month or early December. Also, his confirmation hearings may take more time than Mr. Ford expected.

Senator Frank Church (D., Idaho), chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, objected to Mr. Colby's removal in the midst of the investigation.

Senator John G. Tower (R., Texas), the ranking minority member of the committee, had joined with Mr. Church in urging the President to keep Mr. Colby in his post a while longer, while the committee completes its taking of testimony.

Normally if a department or agency head resigns or is dismissed, the deputy secretary or deputy director takes over temporarily, while the new nominee awaits Senate confirmation.

But the CIA deputy director, Lt. Gen. Vernon A. Walters, has not been dealing with the congressional investigating committees, and he would not be expected to set agency policy on behalf of a newly designated director.

Mr. Church said about half a dozen colleagues had spoken to him yesterday in support of his view that Mr. Bush should not be confirmed because of his background in partisan politics. Mr. Bush is a former Texas congressman and former chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Senator Barry M. Goldwater (R., Ariz.) said Mr. Church had a point. "It's never been a political job; it might hurt Bush a bit," he said.

But numerous other senators predicted confirmation.

Senator Walter F. Mondale (D., Minn.) said he thought a politician might be more sensitive to the dangers of abuse of the agency than a career intelligence officer or outside administrator.